

## Message Text

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62

ORIGIN ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 IO-12 AID-20 /103 R

66644

DRAFTED BY ARA/ CCA: PKJOHNSON/ USOAS: TFCRIGLER: LJP

3/29/73 X29364

APPROVED BY ARA: HURWITCH

ARA/ CCA: JNORBURY

USOAS: JJJOVA

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O R 292316 Z MAR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058440

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CU, US, OAS

SUBJ: OASGA - CUBA POLICY

FOR AMBASSADORS

SUMMARY: IF AT ALL DOUBTFUL OF HOST GOVT POSITION ON CUBA,  
YOU SHOULD REEMPHASIZE U. S. POSITION TO FONMIN AND SEEK HIS  
CONFIDENTIAL

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WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT IN OPPOSING ANY ATTEMPT TO LIFT OR  
UNDERCUT SANCTIONS. END SUMMARY

1. WE ARE PLANNING TO OPPOSE VIGOROUSLY ANY CHALLENGES AT OASGA NEXT WEEK TO PRESENT OAS POLICY ON CUBA, WHETHER POSED AS A STRAIGHT PROPOSAL TO LIFT SANCTIONS, AS A PERU-TYPE PROPOSAL TO MAKE APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS "VOLUNTARY", OR AS AN EVEN MORE EQUIVOCAL RESOLUTION CALLING FOR "NORMAL" RELATIONS AMONG ALL STATES.

2. ACCORDINGLY, IF YOU NOW HAVE ANY DOUBTS ABOUT YOUR HOST GOVT'S INTENTIONS-- FOR OR AGAINST-- AT OASGA, OR IF YOU IN ANY EVENT BELIEVE THAT CONSULTATION ON THIS ISSUE PRIOR TO ASSEMBLY SESSION WOULD BE USEFUL, YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER AND TELL HIM THAT (A) USDEL WILL STRONGLY OPPOSE ANY CHANGE WHATSOEVER, WHETHER EXPLICIT OR IMPLIED, IN OAS POLICY TOWARD CUBA AT THIS SESSION; (B) WE HOPE HIS GOVT SHARES OUR VIEW THAT CONDITIONS DO NOT Warrant RECONSIDERATION OF POLICY AT THIS TIME; AND (C) WE HOPE THEREFORE THAT HIS GOVT WILL JOIN WITH US IN OPPOSING ANY ATTEMPT TO CHANGE OR OTHERWISE UNDERCUT PRESENT POLICY TOWARD CUBA.

3. ADDITIONALLY, YOU MAY SHARE WITH FOREIGN MINISTER OUR CURRENT EVALUATION OF THE SITUATION:

-- DESPITE SOME RECENT EROSION, WE BELIEVE THAT PRESENT POLICY ON CUBA HAS SUPPORT OF AT LEAST 13 MEMBERS, OR BETTER THAN AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (12 VOTES). THUS THERE IS NO QUESTION BUT THAT A MOVE TO LIFT SANCTIONS FORMALLY, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE TWO-THIRDS VOTE (16), WOULD FAIL. IT IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, TO MAINTAIN THE ABSOLUTE MAJORITY WHICH GIVES MORAL AS WELL AS LEGAL FORCE TO PRESENT POLICY.

-- MOST SERIOUS DANGER AT OASGA MAY NOT LIE IN ATTEMPT TO BRING PRESENT POLICY TO YES- OR- NO VOTE BUT RATHER SOME GAMBIT AIMED AT UNDERCUTTING POLICY VIA SIMPLE MAJORITY VOTE, PERHAPS THROUGH BROAD RESOLUTION CALLING FOR "NORMAL" RELATIONS AMONG AMERICAN STATES WHICH MIGHT PROVIDE BASIS FOR SUBSEQUENT PERMANENT COUNCIL ACTION TO TERMINATE SANCTIONS. WE WOULD OPPOSE SUCH A RESOLUTION UNLESS IT ALSO REAFFIRMED THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION AND THE OBLI-CONFIDENTIAL

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GATION OF STATES TO REFRAIN FROM SUBVERSIVE ACTS AGAINST OTHER STATES (CF. RES. 78 OF LAST YEAR'S OASGA).

-- OUR TENTATIVE ESTIMATE OF LINE-UP AT THIS SESSION IS THAT NINE WOULD FAVOR RELAXING THE SANCTIONS POLICY, THIRTEEN WOULD OPPOSE, AND ONE IS UNCERTAIN (VOTING ON PERU PROPOSAL FOR "VOLUNTARY" SANCTIONS LAST JUNE WAS 7-13-3).

-- WE WILL STRONGLY INSIST THAT ANY ASSEMBLY ACTION DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AFFECTING SANCTIONS POLICY REQUIRES TWO- THIRDS VOTE OF MEMBERS, THE CLEAR INTENT OF FONMINS IN RES. 1 OF NINTH MFM IN 1964.

4. AS ADVISABLE, YOU MAY WISH COMPARE NOTES WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON HOW CUBA ISSUE MOST LIKELY TO COME UP AT OASGA AND ON PROBABLE VOTE TALLY. OUR TALLY SHOWS BARBADOS, CHILE, JAMAICA, ECUADOR, MEXICO, PANAMA, PERU, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, AND VENEZUELA IN COLUMN FAVORING CHANGE; BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN REP, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, HAITI, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA, PARAGUAY, AND URUGUAY JOINING U. S. IN OPPOSING CHANGE; AND ARGENTINA UNCERTAIN.

5. FOR BOGOTA, SANTO DOMINGO, SAN JOSE, AND SAN SALVADOR: YOU SHOULD MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT TO ASSURE THAT YOUR HOST GOVT UNDERSTANDS OUR POSITION AND CONTINUES TO SUPPORT

PRESENT OAS POLICY, KEEPING IN MIND THAT AN ABSTENTION WOULD BE UNHELPFUL FROM THIS STANDPOINT.

6. FOR BUENOS AIRES: WE AGREE WITH HIGH- LEVEL APPROACH SUGGESTED IN YOUR 2107 BUT SUGGEST YOU PRESENT THIS IN CONTEXT OF DEMARCHE SEEKING ARGENTINE SUPPORT FOR PRESENT OAS POLICY. ROGERS

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**To:** ASUNCION  
BOGOTA  
BUENOS AIRES  
BRASILIA  
SAN SALVADOR  
GUATEMALA  
LA PAZ

MANAGUA  
MONTEVIDEO  
PORT AU PRINCE  
SAN JOSE  
SANTO DOMINGO  
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